

THE DETROIT SOCIETY

FOR

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

BULLETIN #4

NOVEMBER 13, 1937

Mrs. Wm. F. Cleveland, Editor.

Gordon P. Rothwell, Ass't. Editor.

TO MY ANCESTORS

I see you toiling down the tedious years,
You bearded, bent, and gaunt old pioneers
Sowing and reaping, sowing once again,
In patience, for an unborn race of men.

I see you struggling in the wilderness
Where failure meant starvation, and success
A cabin in the clearing, rough-hewn, rude
Garments of homespun, and the humblest food.

Tradition scarcely tells me whence you came;
I only know a few of you by name;
I only know you lived and multiplied,
Quite profligate in progeny, and died.

Yet, in my heart, I know that most of you
Were strong and steadfast, and that one or two
At least, had weaknesses that still may be
Traced in the trend of atavistic me.

One, I am sure, was blest with Irish wit:
(I'm thankful he transmitted some of it)
That helped him dodge Dame Trouble's swiftest dart,
And meet misfortune with a merry heart.

One was a rather worthless wight, I fear,
Who when the bluebird whistled Spring was near,
Forsook his plow — a shiftless, slaggard one —
And roamed the woods alone, with rod and gun.

And one a gentle dreamer was, I know,
Who lured by shadows, let the substance go.
'Twas he who dared the raging western sea.
I'm glad he handed down his dreams to me.

The above appropriate poem was contributed by Mrs. Myrtle Eleanor Gerard Russell, who clipped it from "The Chicago Tribune" several years ago. The author is unknown but we feel that he was imbued with the spirit of the true Genealogist.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I would like to call the attention of our Members to two books that are available in our Public Library both the Main and most of the Branches I believe, viz.: The Art of Ancestor Hunting by Stetson, and Searching for Your Ancestors, by Doane. These books are quite delightful reading for the dyed in the wool genealogist as well as for the beginner who is just being initiated into our fascinating hobby. Let me urge all and sundry to peruse these two volumes as the benefit derived from them will be well worth the time spent in their reading.

Another Important Thing - the correction of errors. It is easy enough for errors to creep into printed pages. Many mistakes are caused by careless copying of old records; others are brought about by the original source material being indistinct or perhaps faded causing the transcriber sometimes to guess wrong and so to print it. Whatever the cause of these errors, it is the duty of the person who discovers the incorrect date or statement to correct it, and, at the same time to substantiate the correction by offering proof of its correctness. This is a more or less solemn obligation to be carried out by all of us whenever the opportunity presents itself. Let us all do our best to eradicate any false statements we may find!

Please send in your answers to queries appearing in our Bulletin as promptly as you are able giving your authority for the answer and your KEY NUMBER, so that we can publish same in the next issue of the Bulletin and credit you accordingly.

Will those of you who are holding back your Ancestor Charts in order to complete them kindly hand them in at once, so that they may be tabulated and card indexed at the earliest possible moment? Then when you receive the additional information or data for which you have been searching that may be handed in as an addition and so recorded

Don't forget to deposit your suggestions in the "Suggestion Box" provided for that purpose. Anything that you have in mind that will benefit the Society, or give your Officers an opportunity to serve you better will be gratefully received. Perhaps you have an idea for a program or a suggestion as to what books you would like to have the Society purchase; some form or method of procedure that would be an improvement over present practice; in fact, anything that may be uppermost in your mind that will work for the good of us all. Don't delay in passing it on to us.

And now a little Epitaph copied from a Gravestone in Old Hill Cemetery, at Newburyport Massachusetts which reads "Sacred to the Memory of Mrs. Mary McHard, who was snatched from the eager embrace of her friends by swallowing a pea at her own table whence in a few hours she sweetly breathed her soul away on the 8th of March. AD 1780.

And the story of the Hebrew gentleman who when offered a bargain in a cemetery lot directly adjacent to a swamp demurred, saying "Oh, I should bury my family in a place like that where they could get Malaria?"

Harold E. Moyer, President.

GENERAL NEWS

At the last regular meeting on October 13 the following changes to the By Laws were passed.

I In such cases wherein there are two or more Members of the Society in one household the dues for the initial membership shall be at the regular rate but the dues for all additional Members may be accepted at one half the regular rates for each person, provided however that only the initial or full rate member shall be carried on the mailing list to receive notices bulletins etc by mail This By Law shall in no way enjoin any person so desirous from paying dues at the full rate and receiving all the benefits thereof

II Any person joining the Society after April first of any year may pay dues at one half the regular rate. This half rate shall apply only on new memberships issued between April first and September first of any year.

The highlight of the meeting was the lecture by our Mr Elijah Hunter Owen on "Surnames" and the origin and meaning of them. Much interest was evinced by all those present and several members joined in the interesting discussion that followed, explaining the meanings of their own names and various experiences encountered in tracing them.

Mr Elijah Hunter Owen has completed the Genealogy of the John R. Williams Family. This book is now in our files. The names of some of the allied families are: Winder Strong McKinstry and Biddle. One member of this family John Constantine Williams removed to Florida years ago and two members of our Society Miss J. C. Chase and Mrs Wm Liston Moore helped to locate his descendants there.

Prize Contest Announcement After a hotly contested ballot the first prize for the Society Seal was awarded to Mr William Henry Gailey Jr and the second award went to Miss Dorothy S Reading. Both of the winners deserve the thanks of the entire Society for the excellent designs and the effort expended thereon. The winning seal consists of an outer circle bearing the wording "DETROIT SOCIETY FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH" and the year of our inception "1936". Within the circle in the background is a caravel in front of this a terrestrial globe showing the expanse of water between the Old World and the New and superimposed on this an open bible flanked on either side by two burning tapers. Mr Gailey certainly captured the spirit of the requirements and suggestions and has given us a design of which we all may be proud. All of the designs submitted showed unusual merit and gave the judges a knotty problem in making their final decisions.

The Society is happy to announce the admission to membership of the following:

- B-8 BUCHANAN Miss Clara Stewart Webster Hall CO 0100
- E 2 EVERHAM Miss Virginia E 351 Phillip Detroit or 1726 Military Port Huron
- L-4 LAMB Sabria Palmer (Mrs Emmet) 14555 Woodmont RE 5619 J
- L-5 LETSON Mr Joseph E 34622 Ash St Wayne Mich
- P-7 PERKINS Miss Elsie E 3004 Sheridan
- P-9 PIGGINS Mr Edward S 1533 Cadillac Blvd.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Ada Green, mother of Mrs. Maude Fuller, on Oct. 3rd. Interment was at Bancroft Michigan.

We also record with regret the passing, on Oct. 11, of Mr. Manley W. Hobart, father of Ruth Hobart Martin, (Mrs. Clarence R.), after a long and useful life, in his 89th year. He was of all New England Ancestry, but spent his entire life in Friendship, Allegheny Co., New York. The name was originally HOAR, but was changed about one hundred years ago to HOBART, with other family lines taking the names of HOBERT, and HOMER.

IMPORTANT! The enclosed Application Card is sent to you to assist you in fulfilling YOUR part of the Membership Campaign now in progress. Please bring it to the next meeting, properly filled out by someone you have interested in our Society. The success of this organization depends upon YOUR full co-operation as an individual Member.

General Notice The Members are requested to send in their charts as soon as possible and as requested by our President. Inasmuch as the value of the Society to the individual Members depends largely upon these charts, we are asking for a better response than we have had thus far. Also, do not forget that additional blank chart forms are given to you **FREE OF CHARGE** in return for all filled charts which are handed in to the committee.

Members are again reminded that the Society has the use of the Club Room in the Library every Saturday Afternoon from two until four.

Members who do not have copies of Bulletins 1, 2, & 3, may procure same at the next regular meeting

MERRILL: M-5 is making excellent progress on the Merrill Genealogy, and descendants of Nathaniel Merrill 1633/38, of Newbury, Mass. He offers full assistance to anyone interested in the Merrill Family lines

CARPENTER, HAMMOND, GRIFFITH, McCURDY, MERRY: H-15 will be glad to compare notes with any Members who are interested in these surnames.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES

27.1 **GREEN** Bacon: M-5 has completed the ancestral line of Jonas (5th) Green of Byron, Maine.

21.3 **EWERS:** K-1 has received an answer to a query in the Hartford Times, relating to the Ewers Gould family, similar to query 21-3 in Bulletin No. 1.

QUERIES

54.1 **HUNTER:** M-5 wants information about the family of Mathew and Sarah (Magil) Hunter, of Limestone Township Warren Co., Penn. His immigrant ancestors were Robert and Elizabeth (Park) Hunter.

54.2 **HOLDEN:** M-5 wants ancestry of William and Elizabeth Holden, of Groton, Mass., married about 1724.

QUERIES

54.3 BONNEY: M 5 asks information on the 1635 immigrant family of Thomas and Dorcas (Sampson) Bonney, shoemaker, of Charlestown and Duxbury, Mass

55.1 RUTHIE, J 2 wants name of the wife of Rev. James Guthrie, minister of Stirling, Scotland, executed June 1, 1661 on account of his writings.

55.2 ALCOCK, J-2 wants ancestry of Dr. George Alcock, from Leicestershire, England, with Winthrop Fleet. First Physician at Roxbury, Mass. The first name of his wife is desired. She was a Miss Hooker, a sister of Rev. Thomas Hooker.

55.3 PALGRAVE, J-2 wants name of wife of Rev. Edward Palgrave (Palfgrave) of Barnham Brown, Eng. They were parents of Dr. Richard Palgrave, first physician at Charlestown, Mass.

55.4 PALGRAVE, J-2 wants maiden name of Anne or Amy, wife of the above Dr. Richard Palgrave. She was b. 1584, m. in Eng., d. in Roxbury, Mass., Nov. 17, 1669, at 75.

55.5 PALMER, J-2 wants maiden name of Martha, widow of William Palmer, whose estate was administered in Westchester County, New York, 1670 or 1676.

55.6 PALMER, J 2 wants maiden name of Mary, wife of Samuel Palmer of Mangopson, Mamaroneck, N. Y. Her will was proven Oct. 7, 1728.

55.7 BONREPOS, J-2 wants ancestry of Elie de Bonrepos, b 1652-1656, from France to Holland to St. Christopher's Island, W. I., to Boston, to Salem, to New Rochelle, N. Y., where his will was proven May 26, 1719. Especially wants maiden name of his wife, Esther, b. ca. 1663, living in 1698.

55.8 JEFFERS, J 2 wants ancestry of Annetje Jeffers, daughter of Johan Jeffers, (Jeffreys, Geoffeers), She married Jacob Schureman of New Rochelle, N. Y. before 1713. Name of Annetje's mother particularly desired.

55.9 DE VEAUX, J-2 wants parentage of Frederick De Vaux, (De Vou, De Voorse, etc.), born about 1645 in province of Annis, France, fled to Mannheim, Germany, granted license to go to Holland and America, Feb. 23, 1675; in Harlem, New Netherlands by 1677, married Hester Tourneur, June 24, 1679, at Reformed Dutch Church, New York. Their son, Abel De Vaux, married Magdalene... ? The De Vaux Genealogy says she was Magdalene Hunt, but this is believed to be wrong. Was she Magdalene La Due?

56.1 BROADHURST, J-2 wants ancestry of Jonathan Broadhurst, who married Catherine (Benson) Schaets, April 23, 1696; was High Sheriff of Albany, N. Y., Oct. 4, 1702, received freedom of City of New York in 1706.

56.2 HUTCHINSON, J-2 wants ancestry of Catherine Hutchinson, who married John Walker, who was a freeman in Boston, May 14, 1634. They both died at Portsmouth, R. I., where both their wills are recorded.